

November 15, 2005

November Fifteenth

20-----05

The second regular Meeting of City Council was held on the above date at 7:00 p.m. in the Council Chambers located on the Fourth floor of the Municipal Building. The following Council Members were present: Ruby B. Archie, P. A. "Pete" Castiglione, Jr., E. Stokes Daniels, Jr., Mayor John C. Hamlin, T. David Luther, T. Wayne Oakes, Sherman M. Saunders, H. Phillip Smith, and Vice-Mayor R. Wayne Williams, Jr. (9).

Staff members present were City Manager Jerry L. Gwaltney, Assistant City Manager for Utilities Joseph C. King, City Attorney W. Clarke Whitfield, Jr., Director of Finance Barbara A. Dameron, and City Clerk Annette Y. Crane, CMC.

Other Staff Members present were Chief of Police Philip Broadfoot, Fire Chief B. G. Lewis, Management Analyst David Parrish, Parks, Recreation, and Tourism Director Bill Sgrinia, and City Engineer Kent Shelton.

Mayor Hamlin presided.

INVOCATION AND PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Council Member Stokes Daniels offered the invocation. The Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag followed.

MINUTES

Upon Motion by Council Member Daniels and second by Council Member Saunders, Minutes of the November 1, 2005 Regular Meeting of City Council were approved as presented. Draft copies had been distributed to Council Members prior to the Meeting.

VOTE: 9-0
AYE: Archie, Castiglione, Daniels, Hamlin, Luther, Oakes,
Saunders, Smith, and Williams (9)
NAY: None (0).

BUDGET AMENDMENT-FY 2005-2005 - DMV HIGHWAY SAFETY GRANTS

Upon Motion by Council Member Luther and second by Council Member Daniels, an Ordinance entitled:

ORDINANCE NO. 2005-11.07

AN ORDINANCE AMENDING THE FISCAL YEAR 2005-2006 BUDGET APPROPRIATION ORDINANCE BY INCREASING REVENUE TO ANTICIPATE THE RECEIPT OF FUNDS FROM THE VIRGINIA DEPARTMENT OF MOTOR VEHICLES 2006 HIGHWAY SAFETY PROGRAM GRANT FOR TWO (2) GRANTS TOTALING \$18,500 AND APPROPRIATING SAME

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was presented by its First Reading, as required by City Charter, to lie over before final adoption.

AUTHORIZE ISSUANCE AND SALE OF PUBLIC IMPROVEMENT BONDS

Council Member Smith moved adoption of a Resolution entitled:

RESOLUTION NO. 2005-11.04

A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE ISSUANCE AND SALE OF \$8,800,000 GENERAL OBLIGATION PUBLIC IMPROVEMENT BONDS, SERIES OF 2005, HERETOFORE AUTHORIZED, OF THE CITY OF DANVILLE, VIRGINIA, AND PROVIDING FOR THE FORM, DETAILS AND PAYMENT THEREOF.

The Motion was seconded by Council Member Archie and adopted by the following vote:

VOTE: 9-0
AYE: Archie, Castiglione, Daniels, Hamlin, Luther, Oakes, Saunders, Smith, and Williams (9)
NAY: None (0).

CODE AMENDMENT - SECTION 14-17 ARTICLE II - FIRE PREVENTION CODE

Vice-Mayor Williams moved adoption of an Ordinance entitled:

ORDINANCE NO. 2005-11.08

AN ORDINANCE AMENDING AND REORDAINING SECTION 14-17 OF ARTICLE II ENTITLED "FIRE PROTECTION CODE," OF CHAPTER 14 ENTITLED "FIRE PREVENTION AND PROTECTION," OF THE DANVILLE CITY CODE RELATING TO ADOPTION OF THE CURRENT VIRGINIA STATEWIDE FIRE PREVENTION CODE.

The Motion was seconded by Council Member Oakes and adopted by the following vote:

VOTE: 9-0
AYE: Archie, Castiglione, Daniels, Hamlin, Luther, Oakes, Saunders, Smith, and Williams (9)
NAY: None (0).

In response to Mr. Luther, City Manager Gwaltney said Danville's Fire Code always mirrors the State Code. The City's Code would change as the State Code changes.

Mr. Daniels felt the City should be alerted each time a change was made to the State Code. Mr. Gwaltney responded the City's fire officials keep abreast of changes as they occur.

CODE AMENDMENT - ARTICLE 5 CHAPTER 5 - PET WASTE

Council Member Castiglione moved adoption of an Ordinance entitled:

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ORDINANCE NO. 2005-11.09

AN ORDINANCE AMENDING ARTICLE 5 OF CHAPTER 5 OF THE DANVILLE CITY CODE BY ADDING A NEW SECTION REGARDING PET WASTE.

Council Member Archie seconded the Motion.

Council Member Daniels asked about enforcement. For example, Mr. Daniels said if he saw an individual he knew walking their pet on public property and the animal left behind dog waste, he would call animal control to report the incident. He wondered what would happen if the individual denied the incident.

City Manager Gwaltney said he would have to consult with the City Attorney, but if the person reporting the incident wished to have a warrant issued against the offending party, then he/she could do so. City Attorney Whitfield agreed this could be done.

Mr. Gwaltney said if Council desired to have this law on the books, then the proposed ordinance seemed to fit the dog waste laws of the majority of localities.

In response to Council Members Smith and Luther, City Attorney Whitfield said the offense is a Class 4 Misdemeanor with a fine up to \$250.00. Mr. Whitfield said the ordinance was not limited to dogs and cats, but applied to all animals.

Mayor Hamlin felt neighbors needed to work the issues out among themselves and not tie up Police and E911 personnel with such calls.

Mr. Daniels said the ideal solution would be for neighbors to work this out among themselves, but in the real world this doesn't happen very often.

Mr. Saunders called for question. Council agreed unanimously.

The Ordinance **FAILED** by the following vote:

VOTE: 4-5
AYE: Castiglione, Daniels, Luther, and Oakes (4)
NAY: Archie, Hamlin, Saunders, Smith, and Williams (5).

COMMUNICATIONS

There were no communications from the City Manager and City Clerk.

City Attorney Whitfield called attention to information relating to School Board elections that he had placed at the desk of each Council Member and City Staff.

ROLL CALL

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Mayor Hamlin, Vice-Mayor Williams and each Council Member extended their sincere sympathy to the family and fellow police officers of 25-year-old Officer Courtney Dickerson. Officer Dickerson was killed in an automobile accident on Friday, November 11, 2005 after leaving the scene of one police call and was in the process of responding to another. Funeral services for Officer Dickerson were held on Monday, November 14 at Bibleway Church.

Mrs. Archie reported she had attended the Veteran's Memorial Groundbreaking on November 11 at Dan Daniel Park.

Mrs. Archie inquired about placing more police patrols in the Almegro area. She said since a driveby shooting there, residents, and especially senior citizens, were fearful of leaving their homes. Mrs. Archie said she had been told a couple of the houses in the area were being used for illegal drug activity. Mr. Gwaltney agreed to look into the matter with Chief Broadfoot.

Mr. Castiglione advised the Bradley Road/Camp Grove area was beginning to deteriorate. He said he had received calls from residents of the area who reported drug activity and on-going yard sales. He asked if the Community Police could do more patrolling of the area.

Mr. Castiglione reported receiving great comments from Board Members of the State Community College System. He said representatives from the twenty-three Community Colleges in Virginia were meeting in Danville at the Institute this week and they were very impressed with the beauty of Danville.

Mr. Luther expressed appreciation to Governor Warner and City Manager Gwaltney for flying flags at half-staff in honor of fallen Police Officer Courtney Dickerson. He said Officer Dickerson's death had been a major blow to his family and the city's police force, as well.

Mr. Luther announced that CityTV-Channel 20 was up and running. The local government access channel will feature news from both the city and the school system.

Council Member Saunders expressed appreciation to all of the City's Fire, Rescue, Police, Emergency Services, and Utility workers who place their life on the line each day to keep our citizens safe.

Remembering Veteran's Day was November 11, Mr. Saunders thanked all veterans who have and continue to serve in the armed forces.

Mr. Saunders, speaking of the partnership with Pittsylvania County, stated he hoped the partnership would continue. He said over 2,000 jobs had already been announced and more were forthcoming. He urged everyone who was unemployed to prepare by going back to school to sharpen their skills. He said no one is too old or too young to learn and technology was the way to go.

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Mr. Saunders said the worst thing that could happen would be for a new company to locate in the region and not being able to find workers due to a lack of skills.

Mr. Saunders said that in addition to possessing job skills, there was another test individuals would have to take. He was speaking of drug testing. He beseeched everyone to stay drug-free. He said being on drugs or other substances did not help children, did not help the community, and did not help the individual. He said Danville was a good place to live and work. The City is growing; there is room for everyone, and opportunities for everyone. Mr. Saunders once more urged those seeking full-time employment to go back to school. He emphasized that new skills could be learned.

Council Member Smith reported that recently in the local newspaper, the new administration at the hospital was quoted as saying if an individual was going to receive treatment at the hospital, the services would have to be paid for before treatment was received. Mr. Smith said he believed the community needed an explanation and urged the new administrator to elaborate on what he meant by that statement. He said he felt it was unwarranted for citizens, and especially senior citizens, to be concerned about the type of accounts receivable policy in place at the facility.

Dr. Williams said hospital administration would be more than happy to provide information to the public through whatever media source to clarify those remarks referred to by Mr. Smith. Dr. Williams said there were some changes, but they were not as cut and dry as the newspaper article implied.

Dr. Williams commended Mr. Saunders for his remarks, stating they were outstanding and right on target.

Council Member Castiglione said there was also concern in the community about the elimination of some jobs at the hospital. Mr. Castiglione felt those concerns needed to be addressed as well.

Clerk's Note: An abstract of votes for the November 8, 2005 General Election is attached to and made a part of these Minutes.

The Meeting adjourned at 7:40 P.M.

MAYOR

CLERK

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